

Attachment 1:
Sacramento Bee: November 4, 2001

The price of power

Last month, The Bee surveyed all electric utilities in the state — public utilities, private companies and nonprofit cooperatives — about their current electric rates. The Bee's question: What would the monthly bill be for a typical resident who used 750 kilowatt-hours of power, the average usage of customers living in the state's capital? Average customer usage varies among utilities. PG&E's statewide monthly average, for instance, is 515 kilowatt-hours.

The survey produced a wide range of amounts, but by and large shows that public utilities are charging residential customers less than private, investor-owned utilities.

The bill amounts include all charges paid by customers, such as service fees and state surcharges, with the exception of local taxes.

Utility	Customers in California	Year entered retail electric business	Monthly bill for a typical resident using 750 kilowatt-hours of electricity
Public			
Alameda Power & Telecom	32,800	1887	\$91.05*
Anaheim Public Utilities	108,000	1894	\$80.58
Azusa Light and Water Dept.	15,000	1898	\$82.03
Banning Electric Utility	10,300	1914	\$91.97
City of Biggs	600	1903	\$87.40
Burbank Water & Power	52,000	1913	\$97.01
Colton Public Utilities	15,000	1895	\$92.12
Glendale Water & Power Dept.	82,000	1909	\$108.63
Gridley Municipal Utilities	2,300	1910	\$71.23
Healdsburg Electric Dept.	5,200	1908	\$101.97*
Imperial Irrigation District	125,000	1936	\$76.83
Lassen Municipal Utility District	10,000	1986	\$112.25
Lodi Electric Utility	23,500	1910	\$96.98*
Lompoc Electric Utility Dept.	14,500	1923	\$96.17
Los Angeles Dept. of Water & Power	1,300,000	1902	\$78.10
Merced Irrigation District	750	1996	\$94.93
Modesto Irrigation District	97,000	1923	\$69.22*
Needles Utilities	4,000	1983	\$52.82*
Palo Alto Utilities	28,200	1900	\$58.73
Pasadena Water & Power	58,000	1906	\$99.74
Redding Electric Utility	39,000	1921	\$75.22
Riverside Public Utilities	95,200	1895	\$85.33
Roseville Electric	40,000	1911	\$67
Sacramento Municipal Utility District	525,000	1947	\$72.48*
Silicon Valley Power (City of Santa Clara)	48,000	1896	\$58.07
Shasta Lake Municipal Utilities	4,000	1993	\$88.52
Trinity Public Utilities District	6,500	1982	\$55.50
Truckee Donner Public Utility District	10,100	1927	\$64.28
Turlock Irrigation District	67,000	1923	\$67.30*
Ukiah Municipal Utility	7,200	1897	\$103.12
Vernon Utilities Dept.	2,000	1989	\$36.55
Private investor-owned			
The big three			
Pacific Gas and Electric Co.	4,700,000	1905	\$94.91 to \$139.60* †
San Diego Gas & Electric Co.	1,200,000	1887	\$116.12*
Southern California Edison	4,200,000	1909	\$89.46 to \$118.86* †
The others			
Bear Valley Electric	22,000	1921	\$92.14
Pacific Power (PacifiCorp)	42,000	1910	\$54.82*
Sierra Pacific Power Co.	46,000	1928	\$59.84*
Cooperative			
Anza Electric Cooperative Inc.	3,500	1951	\$105
Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative	6,400	1937	\$71.15
Surprise Valley Electrification Corp.	5,500	1936	\$45.75
Valley Electric Association	37	1965	\$57.47

*Summer rates. Winter rates vary somewhat.

†Monthly bill depends on zone.

Source: Bee research based on information supplied by each of the utilities.

Sacramento Bee/Olivia Nguyen